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• Elmer Girten was accompanied on a September 2009 Honor Flight by David Chilson.



• Jim Tichy chats with Tom Stubbs, BGSURA former president and retired BGSU swim coach.

THANK YOUs to Dana Nemeth (Center for Archival Collections), the Piper family, Dave Chilson, Dawn McCaghy, Wes Hoffman, Cliff Boutelle, Roger Anderson, Joan Gordon, Rex Childers.

All about Honor Flight at BGSURA lunch May 12



JIM GORDON

• John and Sylvia Piper and speaker Jim Tichy. More photos on page 2.

THE Pipers shared family photos with BGSU graduate and Honor Flight spokesman Jim Tichy after Tichy's Honor Flight presentation. Their photos were taken at Andrews Air Force base last month as the Pipers welcomed back from Iraq their son, Lt. Col. Mark Piper, 37, after a 60-day deployment with the Air National Guard unit based at Andrews, outside Washington, D.C. Lt. Col. Piper, who flies F-16 fighters for the Guard, lives in Owings, Md., with his wife Christine, a former U.S. Air Force contract attorney now in the Air Force Reserve, and their daughters Autumn, 3, and Amelia, 1.



SYLVIA PIPER

The Pipers have lived in Bowling Green since 1967, when John Piper joined the Health, Physical Education and Recreation faculty after coaching and teaching at Lakewood High School. His bachelor's is from Mount Union, his master's from BGSU, and his doctorate from Ohio State.

continued on page 2

• Welcome at Andrews: Lt. Col. Mark Piper, Autumn, Christine and Amelia.



SYLVIA PIPER

• “Daddy!” Autumn Piper flies to her father during a welcome at Andrews Air Force Base.

Piper welcome *continued*

Sylvia Piper, a Capital University graduate, earned a master’s at BGSU in gifted education. She retired as gifted education coordinator for Wood County Educational Services. Mrs. Piper said she has a special interest in Honor Flight because her father was in the Army in World War II.

Dr. Piper served as head golf coach from 1970 to 1982. He retired in 1997 as associate professor emeritus and was inducted into the BGSU Athletics Hall of Fame in 2001.

Son Mark, after attending Kenwood, Maumee Valley and St. John’s schools, was a second lieutenant after graduating from the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. He earned his pilot’s wings after training in Texas and Arizona and was promoted from major to lieutenant colonel while in Iraq. The Piper family reunion at Andrews took place April 6 as John and Sylvia Piper were returning to Bowling Green after a three-month stay in North Myrtle Beach, S.C. □



BILL STEPHENS/BGSU PHOTO SERVICE 1975

• This photo of the Pipers was in a 1975 football program for the BGSU-Miami game, a page which changed weekly to feature stories about the wives of BGSU coaches. The features were written by BGSU journalism student Margaret Sberna '75 working for Bob Moyer, Sports Information Director then. Sberna became a reporter for the Sentinel-Tribune after graduation. She now is Margaret Sberna Welty, postmaster at Jerry City.



• On an Honor Flight in May 2009, former Bowling Green mayors Wes Hoffman (center) and Bruce Bellard (right) were greeted by soldiers from Ft. Meade, Md. Bellard, professor emeritus of HPER, is in the BGSU Athletics Hall of Fame, and was a varsity wrestling coach. He served in the U.S. Navy. Hoffman was commander of the BGSU Air Force ROTC and chairman of the department.



• **From left:** Janet Parks, Dolores Black, Mavis and Elmer Girten. **Below:** Genevieve Stang (with Peg Tichy) makes a contribution to Honor Flight



• *Dave Chilson (far right) introduced Jim Tichy at the lunch.*



To market, to market

• It's now the Downtown Farmers Market in Bowling Green, open Wednesdays from 3-8 p.m., located in the SamB's parking lot on South Main Street. Early on, flowers and herbs were predominant. Warm weather will bring the vegetables.

Forestry history is program topic

THE city of Bowling Green's Tree Commission will present the "History of Bowling Green's Urban Forestry Program" Saturday, June 5, from 9-11 a.m.

Among the speakers is BGSURA Life Member Dawn McCaghy, a Master Gardener.



• *Dawn McCaghy*

Also speaking will be Mie McMasters, of the Wood County Historical Society, and David S. Bienemann, city arborist.

The program will be held in the Simpson Building meeting room, 1291 Conneaut Ave.

A profile of Dawn McCaghy, written by Janis Pallister, appeared in the September 2000 issue of the BGSURA Newsletter and appears on the next page.



• Dawn McCaghy

There's nothing contrary about her...

BY JANIS PALLISTER

REPRINTED FROM THE
SEPTEMBER 2000 ISSUE
OF THE BGSURA
NEWSLETTER

Some newsletters sent by e-mail

With an increasing number of BGSURA Newsletters being sent by e-mail, members may want to provide the association with a current e-mail address.

Paid association members will continue to receive the printed editions for September, November, January, March, and May. Newsletters sent digitally – like this edition – are “in-between” issues. The Newsletters also are available on line at

www.bgsu.edu/retirement

Please send change information about e-mail, street address or phone number to

retirees@bgsu.edu

jgordon@bgsu.edu, or leave word at the BGSURA office, 419-372-9696. □

THOSE who know Dawn McCaghy (ret. 1991) know that she is not at all like Mistress Mary. A master gardener since her retirement, she is knowledgeable about all kinds of plant life. Dawn received her B.A. magna cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Wisconsin and her Master's in Library Science from Case Western Reserve. She came to Bowling Green in 1970 with her husband Chuck, who had been hired in Sociology. Dawn worked in the library (Reference, Interlibrary Loan, again Reference) from 1970-1991. During that time she was sales manager for a tailgate cookbook and, of course, enjoyed working in her own garden.

However, upon retiring she took a course at Owens Community College, sponsored by the Ohio State Univer-

sity, and then became available for consulting, coming to be known largely through an article in the *Sentinel Tribune*.

A new member of the Black Swamp Hosta and Daylily Society and a member of the committee that publishes the *Master Garden Newsletter*, Dawn is also the chairperson of the Bowling Green City Tree Commission and does garden consulting and maintenance for homeowners. She likes to tell that her first gardening project was to landscape the new office building of The Link. She was to work in an old parking lot, where the soil was “like moon rock.” To plant a dogwood tree, Dawn had to dig a hole with a pick ax and amend the soil with peat moss and fertilizers. One could wager that the tree flourished with Dawn's special TLC.

• continued on next page

DAWN DOES NOT LIMIT her activities to gardening: She is a member of the First Ladies Investment Club and the Mount Ararat Investment Club. Moreover, she is an associate director of the Northwest Buckeye Chapter of the National Association of Investors Corporation, and participates in the readings of the Yum Yums, a book club whose members meet monthly on Sunday morning for a potluck brunch and a book they have all agreed to discuss.

Our gardener's knowledge is constantly enhanced by her professional travels: She has traveled on three master gardener bus trips to visit public and private gardens in the Chicago area; in Canada, in the Ottawa and Niagara areas, including the Royal Canadian Gardens in Hamilton, Ont.; and in the Philadelphia area. However, Dawn travels with friends and husband Chuck throughout the world and, of course, never fails to take in all the

plants and trees growing along the roadside or in public and private gardens.

So passionate is Dawn about plant tending that she was recently seen administering curettage to a scented geranium serving as a table centerpiece in an upscale Niagara-on-the-Lake restaurant.

Keep going, Dawn! □

Note: Dr. Janis Pallister, who was Distinguished University Professor of Romance Languages, died Oct. 18, 2008, at the age of 82. She taught French at BGSU from 1961 until her retirement in 1985.

For the BGSURA Newsletter over a period of eight years, Dr. Pallister wrote profiles of 40 BGSU retirees.

– Jim Gordon, May 22, 2010

Omission of Wood County listing in Aetna directory no problem, hospital, STRS say

WOOD County Hospital and STRS officials say there should be no problem with Medicare hospital bills despite Wood County Hospital not being listed in the Aetna Directory of local PPO providers.

At the March 16 meeting of the board of the Ohio Council of Higher Education Representatives, Gregory Nickell, director of

Health Services for STRS, said providers are still being added to the network.

Roger Anderson, BGSU Retirees Association representative on the council,

reported on Nickell's comments.

Although some providers may not be listed in the network, as long as Medicare is accepted, providers will accept AETNA Medicare Advantage.

More doctors and hospitals

are coming into the plan everyday, Nickell said. There is no penalty for going out of network as long as the provider accepts Medicare. He said bills should be submitted to AETNA first not Medicare.

In a statement March 31, reported previously, Wood County Hospital President Stan Korducki said, "Wood County Hospital accepts all

major insurance plans including Medicare HMO and PPO plans. We have been made aware that Wood County Hospital is not listed in the latest edition of the Aetna Medicare provider directory.

"Please be assured that services are covered at Wood County Hospital and that claims will be processed accordingly as we investigate the cause of the omission. Questions may be directed to Patient Accounts (419-354-8911) or Finance (419-354-8860)." □



• Stan Korducki



BGSU offers free speech, hearing testing Monday and Wednesday by appointment

THE BGSU Speech and Hearing Clinic will hold free appointment-only speech/language and hearing screenings and hearing-aid cleanings Monday and Wednesday for adults and children of all ages.

Appointments may be made by calling 419-372-2515. The clinic is in the Health Center Bldg. on Ridge Street across from Memorial Hall. The Speech and Hearing Clinic in the Department of Communication Disorders provides screening, diagnostic and treatment services for students with communication problems. These problems may include articulation, language, stuttering, voice disorders, auditory processing disorders, foreign dialect and hearing loss. Services are also extended to children and adults throughout northwest Ohio. □

Convocation Sept. 15

JERRY ANDERSON, an Emmy-winning anchor at WTOL-TV, Toledo, and a former BGSU student,



will be the speaker when the BGSU Retirees Association begins its 16th year

with the annual Convocation on Sept. 15. □

Retirees Association NEWSLETTER

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May STRS Board News Details Retirement Board Actions and Discussions

This week, the State Teachers Retirement Board held its monthly meeting. Following the regularly scheduled meetings, a report titled "Board News" is posted on the STRS Ohio Web site, as well as mailed to a number of members and education organization representatives who have requested it. Member of STRS Ohio with an e-mail address on file, will receive this report each month. The May report follows.

MAY BOARD NEWS

RETIRING BOARD MEMBER STEVEN M. PUCKETT RECOGNIZED FOR BOARD SERVICE

During its May 2010 meeting, the State Teachers Retirement Board passed a resolution recognizing the valuable and significant service provided by Dr. Steven M. Puckett during his tenure as a board member. He joined the board in January 2003 as the representative of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. He is retiring from the State Department of Education on June 1.

BOARD REVIEWS ENROLLMENT, COST TRENDS AND IMPACT OF FEDERAL HEALTH CARE LEGISLATION ON 2011 HEALTH CARE PROGRAM PREMIUMS

The factors that affect health care costs nationwide continue to also affect the STRS Ohio Health Care Program. At the May Retirement Board meeting, STRS Ohio staff reviewed these factors and their impact on the annual premiums for each of the plans offered under the STRS Ohio Health Care Program. At the June board meeting, staff will present proposed premiums for all of its health care plans for calendar year 2011 for the board's approval. This allows staff to review the claims experience and trends for the first three months of 2010 before making final premium recommendations.

During the May presentation, staff noted that escalating health care premiums, along with accompanying higher out-of-pocket expenses, remain a national issue. National medical and drug trends continue to outpace the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The continued introduction of new medical technologies and specialty prescription medications play a significant role in these trend rates. STRS Ohio plan enrollees' use of services and claims experience also affect their premiums. The claims experience is particularly high among the non-Medicare Plus and Basic Plan enrollees, as more healthy individuals are not enrolling in the STRS Ohio program due to the availability of less costly plans in the marketplace. In determining premiums, staff must also consider changes resulting from the recent federal health care legislation. For example, this legislation capped Medicare Advantage plan subsidy levels for 2011 at the 2010 levels; yet, medical costs continue to rise. This will mean higher premiums for STRS Ohio's Aetna Medicare Plan (PPO). Nevertheless, it appears that the Aetna Medicare Plan (PPO) will still be less expensive than the Medical Mutual Plus Plan in 2011 for Medicare Parts A & B enrollees and will continue to also provide a savings to the STRS Ohio Health Care Program. The coverage levels and popular features provided by the Aetna Medicare Plan (PPO) will not change for next year.

This fall during the annual health care plan open-enrollment period, STRS Ohio benefit recipients will also have the opportunity to enroll in the dental and vision plans for the period extending from Jan. 1, 2011, through Dec. 31, 2012. There will be no changes in coverage or premiums for the dental plan offered through Delta Dental and the vision plan offered through VSP for this next two-year period.

**DRAFT PENSION LEGISLATION
LANGUAGE EXPECTED SOON**
STRS Ohio has been told that the Ohio Retirement Study Council (ORSC) anticipates receiving draft pension bill language from the Legislative

Service Commission soon. The five Ohio public pension systems can then review their pertinent sections and make any necessary corrections. In the coming months, STRS Ohio also expects to receive a separate package containing language for the additional supplemental changes approved by the Retirement Board in December 2009. These changes primarily focus on disability and survivor benefits and the cost to purchase service credit. Following the close of fiscal year 2010 on June 30, the board will receive updated financial information this fall about the pension fund to consider as it evaluates any further changes to the draft bill, including the proposal presented earlier this year to the board by the Healthcare & Pension Advocates for STRS (HPA).

RETIREMENTS APPROVED

The Retirement Board approved 129 active members and 75 inactive members for service retirement benefits.

**STRS OHIO RECEIVES CERTIFICATE
OF ACHIEVEMENT RECOGNITION**
The Government Finance Officers Association has awarded its Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to STRS Ohio for the 2009 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. This is the 20th consecutive year STRS Ohio has received this national award, which recognizes annual reports that achieve the highest standards in government accounting and financial reporting.

On Saturday, May 8, 2010, the results of the State Teachers Retirement Board election were certified by tellers designated by each candidate and a representative of the Secretary of State. The result of the election for the two contributing member seats on the Retirement Board is as follows:

- Mark Hill, 24,200 votes
- Dale Price, 18,874 votes
- James A. Stoll, 14,968 votes
- Write-Ins, 237 votes

The term of office for Mark Hill and Dale Price begins on Sept. 1 and ends on Aug. 31, 2014. □